

MUHLENBERG MEDICAL CENTER

PULSE

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April, 1978

\$450,000 Goal Set For MMC Development Fund

Eleven men and women have been enlisted by Atty. Jacob S. Kolb, president of the MMC board of directors, as a Development Cabinet. Long range plans for this cabinet include annual giving appeals for support of the hospital and the solicitation of grants from foundations and selected businesses. A development office, possibly staffed by a director of development, may eventually be established. Atty. Kolb said, "As we expand our services and further increase our role as a general hospital, identification and cultivation of friends will be essential to MMC growth."

The first step in the development program was establishment of a Development Fund of \$450,000 for equipping the two new wings now under construction. These wings are part of a \$6.5 million expansion and renovation program that will bring the hospital's facilities up to present day standards and also provide much needed space for expanding programs and services.

This fund drive will be conducted within the MMC "family" of board members, medical staff, hospital employees and the auxiliaries. A professional fund raising consultant, Peter Stevens, John F. Rich Co., Philadelphia, is already at the hospital, and a trailer office has been brought on the campus for his use. The drive began in April and will continue through May.

Members of the Development Cabinet include Dr. Gavin C. Barr, Mrs. Grace Birkel, Rev. Frank Flisser, C. R. Fowler, Rev. Walter A. Kuntzleman, Jacob S. Kolb, Esq., Dr. Raymond Lutz, Mrs. Theresa Muhr, Donald E. Porter, Clarence A. Reichard, and Wharton L. Schneider.

Jean Heist Named Nurse Risk Manager and Ind. Health Nurse

Jean Heist, R.N., has been appointed nurse risk manager and industrial health nurse at Muhlenberg Medical Center. Donald E. Porter, executive director, said she will report to John Hart, director of patient services.

In her new position, Mrs. Heist will serve as risk consultant on the Infection Control, Safety and the Pharmacy, Nursing and Therapeutics committees. She also will serve on the Disaster Committee.

As industrial health nurse, she will schedule physical examinations through the Indus-

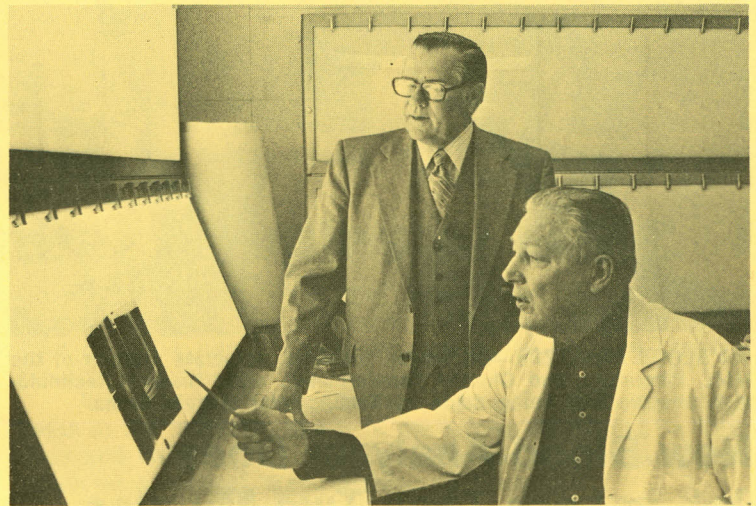
trial Medicine Department and assist in all such examinations.

Mrs. Heist will also identify, analyze and evaluate risks in the hospital environment and assist administration in the selection of methods for solving problems.

She joined the MMC staff in 1973 as medical information specialist.

A native of Bethlehem, Mrs. Heist was graduated from the Lankenau Hospital School of Nursing in Philadelphia, where she later served as a staff nurse. She was employed in the Bethlehem Steel Company

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CAMPAIGN—Rev. Frank Flisser, a member of the board of directors, and Dr. Raymond Lutz, chief of radiology. Rev. Flisser is heading special gifts in the fund campaign and Dr. Lutz is chairing the medical staff committee.

Men of MMC Purchase \$12,400 Orthopedic Table

Two M.D.'s Complete Clinic Clerkships

Two graduates of University of Guadalajara Medical School in Mexico will complete 8-month clinical clerkships at Muhlenberg Medical Center in May. Dr. Ben Barnes, medical director and acting director of medical education, announced that Dr. Robert Goodnight and Dr. Robert Joseph Merlo will leave the hospital to begin intern or residency programs.

Dr. Goodnight, whose home is in Bethlehem, earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Scranton. Dr. Merlo of Easton was awarded a degree by the University of Pittsburgh. They began their

(Continued on page 2)

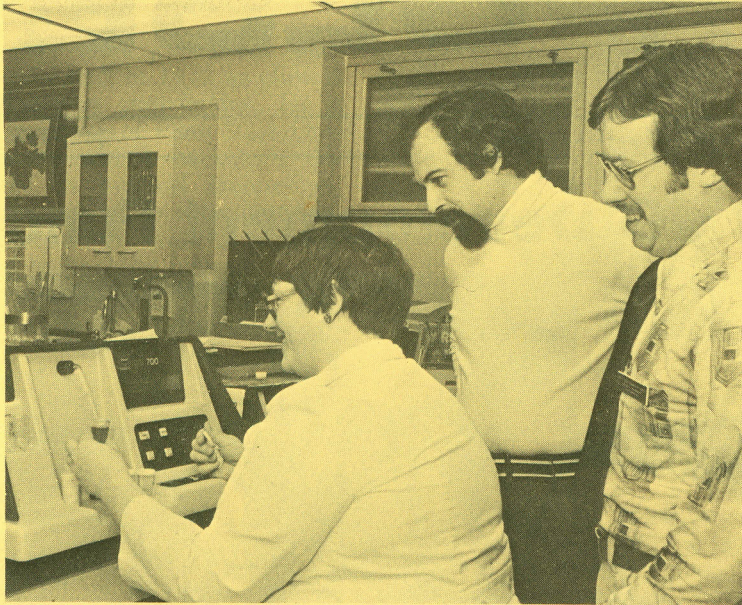
The cost of an orthopedic table for the Surgical Department will be underwritten by the Men of MMC. President Elmer J. Paules, Bethlehem, announced that the board voted to contribute the necessary \$12,400 for the purchase of the device.

At the February meeting of the directors, Joseph W. Fitzgerald, associate executive director, explained the need for the table and described its function. He noted that in an average month surgeons perform 50 to 60 orthopedic procedures. The table permits them to determine immediately if the pin or pins used in joint surgery and replacement are in the proper location. This eliminates the necessity of moving the patient to an x-ray machine.

PULSE

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Donald E. Porter, Administrator



700 BLOOD ANALYZER—Dr. Steven Diamond, associate director of the MMC laboratory, and Charles Fenstermaker, chief medical technologist, observe test being made by Technologist Maggie Glunz.

New Blood Analyzer Does Job in Less Than Two Minutes

The MMC clinical laboratory now makes a complete analysis of a patient's blood in less than two minutes with its J. T. Baker 700 blood analyzer.

The 700 automatically determines the blood elements. Red and white cells are counted and the amount of hemoglobin is recorded. The size of the red cells, as well as the concentration of hemoglobin in them are also determined.

Steven Diamond, D.O., the laboratory's associate director, stated, "Ounce-for-ounce the 700 is one of the most valuable machines in medicine today. Many diseases are first manifest in the blood. Anemia, for example, will be picked-up by the 700."

The machine has the electronic ability to store knowledge. There are both digital print out and a visual read out. The 700 also prints out the analysis which is put on the patient's chart.

Dr. Diamond pointed out

that the 700 is considerably more accurate than the former "hand" method whereby the technologist counted the cells through a microscope.

He described the manner in which the new machine performs the blood analysis. The number of times an electrical current is interrupted corresponds proportionally to the blood elements present. The size of the red cells are determined by the length of the interruption as each cell passes.

The associate director noted that the 700 analysis is only part of a blood examination. The technologist must look at a smear, for example, in order to detect any physical abnormalities of the cells. Dr. Diamond stated that a blood cell is about seven micras, and there are 5 million red cells and 7,000 white cells in a cubic millimeter of blood.

The MMC laboratory performs some 50 hematology and specimen tests daily.

Board Approves Psychiatric Privileges for Dr. Stallmacher

A Zionsville psychiatrist, Virginia M. Stellmacher, M.D., has joined the Muhlenberg Medical Center medical staff. Ben C. Barnes, M.D., the medical director, announced she has been granted courtesy privileges in psychiatry upon approval of the Credentials Committee of the staff and the hospital's board of directors.

Dr. Stellmacher, a native of Rochester, Minn., earned a bachelor's degree from the

University of Illinois and a doctorate from the Medical College of Pennsylvania.

She interned at Medical College of Pennsylvania where she also was a resident in adult and adolescent psychiatry.

The new MMC medical staff member has her office in Allentown. She is a member of the Lehigh Valley Neuropsychiatric Society and the Lehigh County and Pennsylvania medical societies.

Nurse Scholarship To Lynn Weaver

Lynn Weaver, a senior at Liberty High School, Bethlehem, has been granted a scholarship to the St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing by the Auxiliary of Muhlenberg Medical Center.

Miss Weaver has been a candystriper at MMC since 1974. She is on duty on the nursing floors every Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m., assisting in feeding and in linen distribution.

The award was announced by Mrs. Frank Muhr, the Auxiliary president.

Heist (Cont. from page 1)

Dispensary in 1955-56 and served as an evening nurse supervisor for six months at MMC when it opened in 1961.

She resides in Bethlehem with her husband, Edward. The Heists have three girls and a boy.

Hospital Week Message: Don't Take Health for Granted

May 7-13 is National Hospital Week. That might not be a holiday you ordinarily celebrate—unless you happen to work in a hospital. But maybe it's a holiday you should think about observing this year.

Like most designated "weeks" or "days," National Hospital Week reminds us of something we often take for granted; in this case, the presence of our local hospitals. But National Hospital Week can serve as a different kind of reminder, too.

It can remind us that our *health* isn't something to be taken for granted. Our bodies can't be expected to survive whatever we choose to do to them. Smoking, overeating, exercising too little, ignoring key warning symptoms, and not following our doctor's advice will all catch up with us eventually.

And when they do, we might find that we are all too aware of that building in the community which we used to be able to take for granted.

Doctors Contribute \$1,500 to Festival

The medical staff of Muhlenberg Medical Center has contributed \$1,500 to the MMC Summer Festival Committee. The announcement was made by Ben C. Barnes, M.D., the medical director.

The 3-day, 2-night festival will be held on the hospital grounds August 18-20.

M.D.'s (Cont. from page 1)

clerkships at MMC last October, with Dr. Barnes as their preceptor. This program is approved and supervised by Hahnemann Hospital School of Medicine in Philadelphia.

Three senior medical students will complete their pre-internship semesters at MMC this spring. They are Patrick Cinelli, Easton, David Race, Oxford, N. Y., and John Strunk, Bethlehem. All three are seniors at the University of Guadalajara Medical School.



TOGETHERNESS—Three couples who serve regular weekly volunteer stints. Left to right, Loraine Stewart, Robert Stewart, Helen Bonser, Clarence Bonser, Robert Kichline and Katherine Kichline.

Dr. Barilla Granted Staff Privileges

Dr. Donald Barilla of Allentown has been granted consulting privileges in endocrinology and metabolism at Muhlenberg Medical Center. Dr. Ben C. Barnes said he was certified by the medical staff's Credentials Committee and approved by the hospital's board of directors.

Dr. Barilla, an Allentown native, received his bachelor's degree from St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia and his doctorate from Hahnemann Medical College. He interned at Allentown Hospital where he was a resident in medicine. He was also a resident in endocrinology at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Texas.

Wives Motivate Volunteer Couples at MMC

It takes two to tango and, in some Bethlehem families, it also takes two to make a hospital volunteer team. Three such man and wife teams at Muhlenberg Medical Center prove the point.

Loraine Stewart, who began her volunteer service at the hospital in 1969, was joined three years later by her husband, Robert, Sr. The Stewarts are on duty every Tuesday—Loraine in the gift shop and Robert in mail sorting and delivery. When these chores are finished, he helps with filing in purchasing and the laboratory.

Working with the mail is a logical avocation for Mr. Stewart. A postal employee for 32 years, he was assistant superintendent of mail at the Moravian Station Post Office in Bethlehem at the time of his retirement.

Since his wife was employed for a number of years at Orr's and Somach's, she was a real find for the hospital's gift shop.

"Even before MMC opened in the early sixties I was interested in hospital work," she recalled, "and I resolved to volunteer as soon as I retired."

Her particular assignment is decorating the shop's show windows on the main corridor of the hospital. "This was my job at Somach's," she noted, "so I can put a lot of experience to work at MMC."

Mrs. Stewart also is very much involved at Edgeboro Moravian Church in Bethlehem. She is chairperson of the Women's Auxiliary and also makes dolls and needlework items for the church bazaar.

Mr. Stewart, a steward at the church, helps to count the collection money. Both help to make the Moravian Mints that are sold at the Moravian Gift Shop and other locations. The mint group makes and sells 2,500 boxes each year. The Stewarts also participate in Sun Inn Preservation activities.

The couple agree that hospital work provides an opportunity to meet people and make new friends. They work the same hours at MMC and also assist at the monthly meeting of the medical staff. Loraine handles the telephone, while Robert shows the films that are part of the programs. They echo the same slogan, "We had to be active."

They have a son in Michigan and a daughter in Alburtis. There are 8 grandchildren.

Helen Bonser joined the MMC volunteer corps when the

hospital opened in 1961. For seven years she served on a medical floor bathing and feeding patients. Then she left to take an active part in the social ministry of Messiah Lutheran Church, Bethlehem.

When her husband, Clarence, retired in 1975, the couple came to the hospital. She is in pre-admission testing on Tuesdays and bathes patients, makes beds and serves other patient needs on a surgical/medical floor on Fridays.

Clarence takes patients to and from physical therapy both days. Each day he and three other volunteers wheel about 90 patients for their therapy. For good measure, Clarence sorts and distributes mail on Mondays.

For a number of years he and Helen have been responsible for the newsletter published by their church. A son, Rev. Richard Bonser, is pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Allentown, and vice-pastor of St. James Lutheran also in Allentown.

"When Clarence retired from Bethlehem Steel after 40 years he proposed going to Muhlenberg Medical Center as volunteers," Mrs. Bonser stated. "I guess he knew I was ready to go back. Their philosophy sums up the essence of volunteering, 'You have to like to help people.'"

Robert Kichline is another recent Bethlehem Steel retiree who joined his wife in volunteer hospital service. He was in auto sales for many years in Bethlehem and spent the last 11 years of his working life in the steel company's Sentencing Plant.

His wife, Katherine, began volunteer service at MMC in 1974 and sold her husband on joining her. "It wasn't difficult," she recalled. "I told him if we didn't become volunteers we would have to sit at home and look at each other all day."

"I'm a 'gopher' at the hospital," Bob noted. His job, to be precise, is taking patients from the Emergency Department to x-ray and physical therapy. He also runs errands and distributes charts to the patient floors.

Thursday is their day, and that's when Katherine can be found in the gift shop. She is also a member of the auxiliary and attends the Summer Festival Workshop almost weekly in the barn on the MMC campus. They attend Salem Lutheran Church, Bethlehem.

The Kichlines are travelers whose touring has taken them to Florida, California and the Canadian Rockies. Last month

(Continued on page 4)

Hospital Names John Hart Patient Services Director

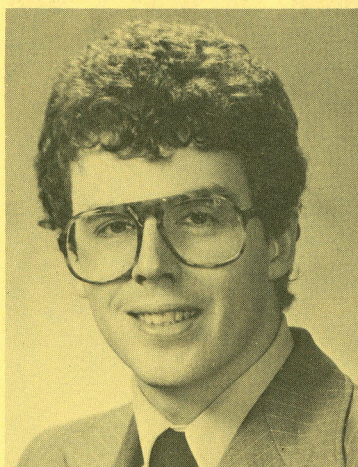
John W. Hart has been named MMC director of Patient Services. He succeeds Joseph Fitzgerald, who became associate executive director last year.

Mr. Hart joined the hospital's staff in 1972 as clinical laboratory coordinator. He is a graduate of Penn State University with a bachelor's degree in medical technology, spending his final term at McKeesport Hospital as a medical technology interne.

A native of St. Clair, Pa., Mr. Hart studied at the Pottsville Hospital School of Medical Technology for a year before entering Penn State.

As director of patient services, he has administrative responsibilities for the clinical laboratory, radiology, nuclear medicine and ultra sound, physical medicine, occupational and recreational therapy and pulmonary medicine.

He also coordinates industrial medicine and risk management, which monitors internal safety and infection control.



John W. Hart

Mr. Hart is a member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Emergency Medical System Council and serves on its categorization and communication committees. He is a member of the Lehigh County Penn State Alumni Club.

The new director of patient services resides in Wescosville with his wife, Kathleen. He is presently studying for a master's degree in biology at Kutztown State College.

Emil Piger, Dennis Brown, Stan Kleckner on Men of MMC Board

The Men of Muhlenberg Medical Center elected three new directors at their annual dinner meeting on April 13. The session at the Northampton Community Center was attended by more than 200 members, wives and guests.

Emil Piger, Allentown, and Dennis Brown and H. Stanley Kleckner, both of Bethlehem, were elected to 3-year terms to the board during the annual meeting of the membership. They will fill a vacancy and the directorships of Robert C. Zandel and John Gemi, Jr., who resigned.

The men's auxiliary re-elected Harry S. Diehl, Allentown; Kenneth Harpel, George H. Harris, Thomas Hettinger, Lester Pearson, and Wilbur P. Von Steuben, all of Bethlehem; Irvin H. Lengel and Daniel W. Keener, Neffs, and Roland W. Yaple, Northampton. They will serve for 3-years.

Charles E. Payne, Bethlehem, chaired the Nominating Committee, which included Clarence Scheckenberger and Mr. Yaple.

Officers will be elected at the annual reorganization meeting of the board on April 24.

Clarence A. Reichard, chairman of the hospital's board of directors, was the speaker. He traced the progress of the institution and gave the audience an up-to-the-minute report on the current expansion / renovation program.

Mel Ehrin, well-known pianist and entertainer, won the plaudits of the assemblage with his "Evening at the Keyboard".

The Dinner Committee included John Gemi, Jr., Chairman; Douglas M. Hunt, Paul Wieand, Mr. Harris and Mr. Pearson.

Auxiliary Spring Schedule

Mrs. Frances Storm, the Auxiliary publicity chairwoman, announced the schedule of area events for the spring season:

The Bethlehem Area will hold its annual dinner meeting on Thursday, May 25, in the hospital's dining room. Entertainment will be provided by the MORA Club Chorus of Bethlehem. Tickets, priced at \$6.25 per person, can be purchased at the Volunteer Office.

The Allentown Area's annual dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 p.m., at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 1933 Hanover Avenue.

The annual meeting of the Neffs-Slatington Area is planned for Thursday, May 11, in the Schnecksville Grange Hall.

The Catasauqua-Northampton-Whitehall Area will meet on Friday, May 12, at Faith Lutheran Church, Whitehall.

The Nazareth Area will meet on Tuesday, May 23, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Bath, at 7:30 p.m. The area will sponsor bus trips to the Holland Tulip Festival, May 16, and to Agaway Canyon, Canada, July 6. Mrs. William Snyder, Tatamy, is in charge of the trips.

Carbon County Area will meet on Tuesday, June 20, at Beltzville State Park. There will be a covered dish supper.

Emmaus Area members of the Holy Spirit Lutheran Church donated \$250 in memory of Mary Laser. This area is holding a quilt sale.

Couples (Continued from page 1)

they were in Hawaii. Their two sons and their families also reside in Bethlehem.

Robert Kichline insisted that volunteer service at MMC is "the most rewarding experience of my life." Just to prove it, he always arrives an hour early for his weekly tour of duty.

Mrs. Mary Grace Stanton, director of volunteers and community service, is sold on the husband and wife team concept. "Their attendance is exemplary," she pointed out, "because one spouse puts just a little pressure on the other to be here." Would Muhlenberg Medical Center welcome other such teams? "Would we ever", was Mrs. Stanton's retort.

Emergency Visits Increase

An increase of almost 40 percent in emergency room visits was reported by Donald E. Porter, MMC executive director, for the month of February. Mr. Porter stated that there were 1,055 visits during the month, as compared with 798 during Feb-

ruary 1977.

Bed occupancy was just short of a record when 91.7 percent of the hospital's beds were occupied during the month. This was just short of the record 92 percent during the same month last year.

Muhlenberg Medical Center
Bethlehem, Pa. 18017

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